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1 2 3 4	THOMAS N. STEWART, III - #881 ATTORNEY AT LAW 369 BLUE OAK LANE, 2 <sup>nd</sup> FLOOR CLAYTON, CA 94517 TELEPHONE (925) 672 8452		PH 3: 4 )
5 6 7		RIGINAL	
8		STATES DISTRICT CO	<1 <i>P</i> 7
9	NORTHER!	N DISTRICT OF CALIF	FORNIA
10		CV <sub>Case</sub> Q <sub>0</sub> 8 <sub>V-8-</sub> Civil Rights	2914
11	Plaintiff,	· <del></del>	
12 13	v. FREMONT LAND COMPANY, LLC,	DAMAGES: DEN PUBLIC FACILIT DISABLED PERS	OR PRELIMINARY AND NUNCTIVE RELIEF AND NIAL OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND TIES TO PHYSICALLY SONS (CIVIL CODE §§ 54,
15	Defendant.	2 1.1 CTATA 23, TAT	UNCTIVE RELIEF PER ICANS WITH DISABILITIES
17	Plaintiff, Scott Johnson, alleges:	<del></del>	
18	FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF FOR DENIAL OF FULL AND EQUA PUBLIC FACILITIES AT A GAS	: DAMAGES AND IN L ACCESS TO A PUB STATION/MINI MART	JUNCTIVE RELIEF LIC ACCOMMODATION:  (Civil Code 88 51 54 1)
20	1. Plaintiff does not have the substar	ntial use of his legs, and	limited was six a
21	is a person with a disability" and "physic	cally handicapped person	n". Plaintiff requires the use
22	of a wheelchair for locomotion and is eith	er unable to use portion	s of public facilities which are
23	not accessible to disabled persons who rec	quire the use of a wheeld	chair or is only able to use
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such portions with undue difficulty. Plaintiff is also unable to use inaccessible door handles.

2. The "Union 76" gas station and mini mart located at 398 Fremont Street, Monterey, California (the Store) is a gas station and mini mart. The Store is a public accommodation. Defendant owns the real property where the Store is located.

3. Summary of facts: This case involves the denial of accessible parking, path of travel into the Store and sanitary facilities to Plaintiff and others similarly situated at the Store on May 17 and 18, 2008 (collectively referred to as the "Dates"). Plaintiff was denied equal protection of the law and was denied Civil Rights under both California law and federal law, as hereinbelow described. Plaintiff was denied his rights to full and equal access to the Store because of barriers in the parking lot and restrooms. All of this made the Store not properly accessible to Plaintiff or to others similarly situated. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief to require Defendants to remove the above-stated barriers, to comply with ADAAG and the CBC where required, to remove all barriers to access which are readily achievable, to make all reasonable accommodations in policy in order to enable Plaintiff and others similarly situated to use the Store and at minimum, to use readily achievable alternative methods to enable Plaintiff to use the goods and services which the Store makes available to the non-disabled public. Plaintiff also seeks the recovery of damages for his personal damages involved in the discriminatory experiences on the Dates, and seeks recovery of reasonable attorney's fees and litigation expenses and costs according to statute.

4. Jurisdiction: This Court has jurisdiction of this action pursuant to 28 USC § 1331 for violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC 12101 et seq. Pursuant to supplemental jurisdiction, attendant and related causes of action arising from the same facts are

 also brought under California law, including but not limited to violations of California Civil Code §§ 51, 54, 54.1 and 55.

- 5. Venue: Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 USC 1391(b) and is founded on the fact that the location where Plaintiff experienced his discrimination is located in this district and that Plaintiff's causes of action arose in this district.
- 6. Intradistrict: This case should be assigned to the San Jose intradistrict because the incident occurred in, and Plaintiff's rights arose in, the San Jose intradistrict.
- 7. The Store is a "public accommodation or facility" subject to the requirements of California Civil Code § 51, 54, 54.1 and 55.
- 8. Placeholder.
- 9. Defendants are and were the owners, operators, managers, lessors and lessees of the subject Store at all times relevant herein. Plaintiff is informed and believes that each of the Defendants is and was the agent, employee or representative of each of the other Defendants, and performed all acts and omissions stated herein within the scope of such agency or employment or representative capacity and is responsible in some manner for the acts and omissions of the other Defendants in proximately causing the damages complained of herein.
- 10. Plaintiff and others similarly situated are disabled persons who require the use of a wheelchair, do not have full use of their hands, and are unable to use public facilities on a "full and equal" basis unless each such facility is in compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations thereof. Under Civil Code §§ 51 and 54.1, Defendants were required to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto. The acts and omissions of

which Plaintiff complains took place at the Store.

- 11. Civil Code §§ 51 and 54, et seq., were enacted to prohibit discrimination against people with disabilities and to encourage the full and free use by people with disabilities of public facilities and other public places. CC §§ 51 and 54(c) state that a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 is a "violation of this section"; CC § 54.1(a) states that individuals with disabilities are entitled to "full and equal access" to public accommodations and that such access means that which meets the standards of Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto; CC § 52 states that minimum damages for discrimination are \$4,000 for each instance of discrimination; CC § 54.3 states that a defendant who denies or interferes with a disabled person's rights of access is liable for actual damages of not less than \$1,000 and attorneys' fees.
- 12. Health & Safety Code § 19955 was enacted "To ensure that public accommodations or facilities constructed in this state with private funds adhere to provisions of Chapter 7 (commencing with § 4450) of Division 5 of Title 1 of the Government Code." Such public accommodations include those which are the subject of this action. On information and belief, Title 24 California Code of Regulations, formerly known as the California Administrative Code, was in effect at the time of construction and of each alteration of work, all of which occurred after July 1, 1982, thus requiring access complying with the specifications of title 24 for all such construction and for each such "alteration, structural repair or addition".
- 13. Although Plaintiff lives in the Sacramento area, he periodically goes to Monterey to accompany his son in his son's scuba diving activities and to patronize tourist facilities.

Although the Store has a parking lot, it does not have van-accessible parking. Both the

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Store's restrooms, and the Store itself, are inaccessible to people in wheelchairs because getting in requires going up a curb.

On May 17, 2008 Plaintiff drove to the Store to purchase some medicine. He had no choice but to park in a parking spaces which was not van-accessible. He then discovered that he could not get into the Store. As a consequence, he left and went to another mini mart down the street.

On May 18, 2008 Plaintiff went to the Store to get gas and food. He was unable to get into the Store, himself, to get the food. He would have used the Store's restroom if he had been able to get into it.

As a result, Plaintiff was humiliated and embarrassed, all to Plaintiff's damages in an amount according to proof.

- 14. Defendant's failure to remove all readily achievable barriers, institute policies in furtherance of accessibility or at least have an alternate policy to enable Plaintiff to use the goods and services offered to the non-disabled public without having to suffer the indignities, as aforesaid, was a violation of the California Building Code, the Americans with Disabilities Act and federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and as a consequence, was a violation of Civil Code §§ 51 and 54, et seq.
- 15. Injunctive relief: Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief to prohibit the acts and omissions by Defendants at the Store as stated above which appear to be continuing, and which have the effect of wrongfully excluding Plaintiff and others similarly situated from using the Store. Plaintiff will either continue to use the Store or will refrain from using the Store until the barriers are removed. Such acts and omissions are the cause of humiliation and mental and

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emotional suffering of Plaintiff in that these actions continue to treat Plaintiff as an inferior and second class citizen and serve to discriminate against Plaintiff on the sole basis that Plaintiff is a person with a disability and requires the use of a wheelchair for movement in public places. Plaintiff is unable so long as such acts and omissions of Defendants continue, to achieve equal access to and use of this public facility. The acts of Defendants have proximately caused and will continue to cause irreparable injury to Plaintiff if not enjoined by this Court. Plaintiff seeks an injunction as to every violation of California or Federal disability access law which is related to his disability.

16. Damages: As a result of the denial of equal access to the Store and due to the acts and omissions of Defendants and each of them in owning, operating and/or leasing the Store, Plaintiff suffered a violation of Civil Rights including but not limited to rights under Civil Code §§ 51, 54 and 54.1, and suffered mental and emotional distress, embarrassment and humiliation, all to Plaintiff's damages. Defendant's actions and omissions to act constituted discrimination against Plaintiff on the basis that Plaintiff was physically disabled and unable to use the facilities on a full and equal basis as other persons, and on the additional basis that Plaintiff had asked the property owner to remove barriers from the property. Plaintiff seeks actual damages, including the minimum damages of \$4,000 per visit pursuant to CC § 52 and/or \$1,000 per visit pursuant to CC § 54.3. Plaintiff also seeks trebling of all of the actual damages as provided by Civil Code § 54.3.

17. Fees and costs: As a result of Defendant's acts, omissions and conduct, Plaintiff has been required to incur attorney's fees, litigation expenses, and costs as provided by statute, in order to enforce Plaintiff's rights and to enforce provisions of the law protecting access for disabled

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persons and prohibiting discrimination against disabled persons. Plaintiff therefore seeks recovery of all reasonable attorney's fees and costs, pursuant to the provisions of Civil Code §§ 52 and 54.3. Additionally, Plaintiff's lawsuit is intended not only to obtain compensation for damages to Plaintiff, but also to force the Defendants to make their facilities accessible to all disabled members of the public, justifying "public interest" attorney's fees, litigation expenses and costs pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

18. Wherefore, Plaintiff asks this Court to preliminarily and permanently enjoin any continuing refusal by Defendants to comply with the requirements of the California Building Code and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto with respect to access of disabled persons to the Store; for minimum damages pursuant to CC § 52; for actual and treble damages pursuant to CC § 54.3 and for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to CC §§ 52, 54.3 and 1021.5.

## SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF: VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 42 USC §§ 12101 FF

- 19. Plaintiff realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1-18 hereof.
- 20. Pursuant to law, in 1990 the United States Congress made findings per 42 USC §12101 regarding physically disabled persons, finding that laws were needed to more fully protect "some 43 million Americans [with] one or more physical or mental disabilities"; that "historically society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities"; and that "such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem"; that "the Nation's proper goals regarding individuals with disabilities are to assure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self

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sufficiency for such individuals"; and that "the continuing existence of unfair and unnecessary
discrimination and prejudice de
discrimination and prejudice denies people with disabilities the opportunity to compete on an
quan basis and to pursue those opportunities for which our free society is justifiably formand
1. Congress stated as its purpose in passing the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 USC
12101(b)):

It is the purpose of this act

- (1) to provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities;
- (2) to provide clear, strong, consistent, enforceable standards addressing discrimination against individuals with disabilities;
- (3) to ensure that the Federal government plays a central role in enforcing the standards established in this act on behalf of individuals with disabilities; and
- (4) to invoke the sweep of Congressional authority, including the power to enforce the 14th Amendment and to regulate commerce, in order to address the major areas of discrimination faced day to day by people with disabilities (emphasis added).
- 22. As part of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Public Law 101-336 (hereinafter the "ADA"), Congress passed "Title III - Public Accommodations and Services Operated by Private Entities" (42 USC 12181 ff). Among "private entities" which are considered "public accommodations" for purposes of this Title are a gas station/mini mart (Regulation 36.104). 23. Pursuant to §302, 42 USC §12182, "No individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations of any place of public accommodation by any person who
- owns, leases or leases to, or operates a place of public accommodation." 24. Among the specific prohibitions against discrimination were included:
- §12182(b)(2)(A)(ii): "A failure to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices or

2	procedures when such modifications are necessary to afford such goods, services, facilities,
3	privileges, advantages or accommodations to individuals with disabilities "
4	§12182(b)(A)(iii): "a failure to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that no individual
5	with a disability is excluded, denied service, segregated, or otherwise treated differently the
5	other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services. ": \$1218241(4)(5)
7	"A failure to remove architectural barriers and communication barriers that are structural in
	nature, in existing facilities where such removal is readily achievable"; §12182(b)(A)(v):
	"Where an entity can demonstrate that the removal of a barrier under clause (iv) is not readily
	achievable, a failure to make such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or
	accommodations available through alternative methods if such methods are readily achievable".
	The acts and omissions of Defendants set forth herein were in violation of Plaintiff's rights
	under the ADA, Public Law 101-336, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, 28 CFR Part
	36ff.
	25. The removal of each of the barriers complained of by Plaintiff as hereinabove alleged, were
	at all times herein mentioned "readily achievable" under the standards of the Americans With
	Disabilities Act. Because the Store was not accessible, Defendants had an obligation to have
	some sort of plan which would have allowed Plaintiff to enjoy the Store's goods and services
	without having to suffer the indignities as aforesaid.
	26. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12188ff, §308, Plaintiff is entitled to the remedies and proceed.
	entitled to the remedies and procedures set forth in §204(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000(a)-3(a), as Plaintime to the remedies and procedures set forth in §204(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42
	USC 2000(a)-3(a), as Plaintiff is being subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability in
	violation of this Title or has reasonable grounds for believing that he is about to be subjected to

discrimination in violation of §12182. On information and belief, Defendants have continued to violate the law and deny the rights of Plaintiff and of other disabled persons to access this public accommodation since on or before the Dates. Pursuant to §12188(a)(2), "In cases of violations of §12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) ... injunctive relief shall include an order to alter facilities to make such facilities readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities to the extent required by this title."

27. Plaintiff seeks relief pursuant to remedies set forth in §204(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (42 USC 2000(a)-3(a), and pursuant to Federal Regulations adopted to implement the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Plaintiff is a person for purposes of Section 12188(a) of the ADA who is being subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability in violation of Title III and who has reasonable grounds for believing he will be subjected to such discrimination each time that he may attempt to patronize the Store.

Wherefore Plaintiff prays for relief as hereinafter stated:

## PRAYER

1. Issue a preliminary and permanent injunction directing Defendants to modify its facilities as required by law to comply with the ADAAG where required, remove all barriers where it is readily achievable to do so, institute policies in furtherance of accessibility or at least have an alternate policy to enable Plaintiff to use the goods and services offered to the nondisabled public so that it provides adequate access to all citizens, including persons with disabilities; and issue a preliminary and permanent injunction directing Defendants to maintain its facilities usable by plaintiff and similarly situated persons with disabilities in compliance with federal regulations, and which provide full and equal access, as required by law;

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2. Retain jurisdiction over the	Doc. 1
Defendants' unlawful policies	Defendants until such time as the Court is satisfied that
· Practice	s, acts and omissions
3 Award to Division of Herei	n no longer occur, and will not recur;

- 3. Award to Plaintiff all appropriate damages, including but not limited to statutory damages, treble damages, general damages and special damages in an amount within the jurisdiction of the Court, all according to proof;
- 4. Award to Plaintiff all reasonable attorneys' fees, all litigation expenses, and all costs of this proceeding as provided by law; and
- 5. Grant such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper. Date: June 10, 2008

S/Thomas N. Stewart, III

By: THOMAS N. STEWART, III

Attorney for Plaintiff

Filed 06/11/2008

S JS 44 (Rev. 12/07) (cand rev 1-16-08)

COB-294 HPL

Document 1-2 Filed CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANT	TS		
Scott Johnson			Fremont Land Company, LLC				
	of First Listed Plaintiff SePT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	ASES)		County of Residen  NOTE: IN LA  LAND  Attorneys (If Know	ND CO!	irst Listed Defendant IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES NDEMNATION CASES, USE T VED - filing	Monterey S ONLY) THE LOCATION OF THE
(925) 672-8452				4			TIKL
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)	III. C	(For Diversity Case	s Only)		(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government N	ot a Party)	Cit	izen of This State	PTF 1	DEF  Incorporated or Princi of Business In Th	ipal Place 4 4
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship o	f Parties in Item III)	Cit	izen of Another State	<b>_</b> 2	2 Incorporated and Print of Business In Ar	
IV. NATION OF CAUSE				izen or Subject of a [Foreign Country	3	3 Foreign Nation	6 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Onl	y)					
CONTRACT		DRTS		FORFEITURE/PEN	ALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
110 Insurance   120 Marine   130 Miller Act   140 Negotiable Instrument   150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment   151 Medicare Act   152 Recovery of Defaulted   Student Loans (Excl Veterans)   153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits   160 Stockholders' Suits   190 Other Contract   195 Contract Product Liability   196 Franchise   REAL PROPERTY   210 Land Condemnation   220 Forcelosure   230 Rent Lease & Ejectment   240 Torts to Land   245 Tort Product Liability   290 All Other Real Property   290 All Other Real Pr	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle 1355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury  CIVIL RIGHTS 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 444 Welfare	PERSONAL IN.  362 Personal Inju Med. Malpra Med. Malpra 365 Personal Inju Product Liab 368 Asbestos Per Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROF 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lene 380 Other Person Property Dan 385 Property Dan 385 Property Dan Product Liab PRISONE PETTION 510 Motions to V Sentence Habeas Corpus: 530 General 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & 550 Civil Rights	JURY  LUTY—  C tice  LUTY—  LUTY—  LUTY—  LUTY  LUTY	610 Agriculture	lards elations porting t Act gation	## BANKRUPICY  ## 422 Appeal 28 USC 158  ## 423 Withdrawal	OTHER STATUTES  400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 892 Economic Stabilization Act 893 Environmental Matters 894 Energy Allocation Act 895 Freedom of Information Act 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
V. ORIGIN  Proceeding  (Place an "X"  2 Remo  State (	Court Appel	late Court	Reinstat Reopen	ed (specify	r distric y)	t 6 Multidistrict Litigation	Appeal to District 7 Judge from Magistrate Judgment
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	42 USC 12101		ou alt fil	mg (Do not che Juri	saictioi	nal statutes unless diversity	/):
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P. 2	3		DEMAND S		JURY DEMA	only if demanded in complaint:
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) 1F ANY	"NOTICE OF RE	CLATED CASE".	12 CON	CERNING REQUII	RE MEN	VT TO/FILM	
IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNN (PLACE AND "X" IN ONE	4ENT (CIVIL L.R. 3-2 BOX ONLY)			RANÇISCO/OAKI	LAND	■ SAN JOSE	
DATE 6/10/03		SIGNATURE OF	ATTORN	EY OF RECORD	L		